

do not fully account for migration statistics. For a more accurate population estimate, the reader is referred to Table 1.

EDUCATION

Educational attainment can be an important asset to any community. It can mean more job opportunities with generally higher income. It can be used to attract potential employers to the county. Education can be an asset in the development of both the economic and social well-being of the county.

The responsibility of providing education for the people of Jackson County is shared by the State of North Carolina and the county. This section of the population report shows the level of education attained by the citizens of Jackson County and compares this level of education with the State of North Carolina and the United States. (see Table 10)

A study of Table 10 indicates that in terms of median school years completed, Jackson County residents are below both the State and the Nation. However, the county does compare favorably with surrounding counties. Only Haywood County shows a higher media school years completed record. Both Swain and Macon Counties fall below the Jackson County level of school years completed.

Public school expenditures per pupil amounted to \$785 in 1972 in Jackson County. This per pupil expenditure is greater than the State as a whole and for surrounding counties (see Table 11). Total public school expenditures amounted to just over 2.5 million dollars for the county in 1972.

The study of population and the economy undertaken in this report will assist in the determination of future needs for community services. In general it would appear that the Jackson County school population is declining slightly and should continue to do so through the 70's. The higher percentage